

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, XG, UK, EI

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION: FINAL SESSION SET FOR MARCH 2

1. CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BUSINESS COMMITTEE DOMINATED BY MAJORITY UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST COALITION (UUUC) HAS DECIDED CONVENTION WILL END MARCH 2 WITH DEBATE ON UUUC MOTIONS CALLING ON GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT ORIGINAL MAJORITY CONVENTION REPORT AND CRITICIZING GOVERNMENT FOR INEFFECTUAL SECURITY POLICY. VANGUARD LEADER WILLIAM CRAIG ON BEHALF HIS FOUR-MAN CONVENTION PARTY HAS ENTERED SEVERAL AMENDMENTS TO THESE MOTIONS INCLUDING DELETION OF CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT AND ADDITION OF CALL FOR REFERENDUM ON TEMPORARY EMERGENCY VOLUNTARY COALITION WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF ORIGINAL UUUC REPORT. VANGUARD MEMBERS WILL PROBABLY GET TO SPEAK ON THESE AMENDMENTS BUT UUUC MAY ATTEMPT 6 PM GUILLOTINE.

2. SO FAR ONLY ALLIANCE HAS ANNOUNCED INTENTION SUPPORTVANGUARD IN DEBATE. UNIONIST PARTY NORTHERN IRELAND THE ONE DELEGATE FROM NORTHERN IRELAND LABOUR PARTY WILL PROBABLY SUPPORT IN END. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY (SDLP) HAS NOT ANNOUNCED INTENTION AND THERE SIGNS OF SERIOUS DISAGREEMENT AMONG CONVENTION MEMBERS. THOSE OPPOSED TO REFERENDUM BELIEVE EVEN IF COALITION PROPOSAL NOT DEFEATED IN REFERENDUM BASE OF SUPPORT FOR SUBSEQUENT ELECTION WOULD BE TOO WEAK TO ACHIEVE UNCLASSIFIED

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MEANINGFUL REPRESENTATION IN CABINET.

3. LARGEST PROTESTANT PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATION, ULSTER DEFNSE ASSOCIATION (UDA) AND TWO OTHERS FEB. 27 CONTRADICTED REPORT EMANATING FROM UNITED LOYALIST CENTRAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE SPOKESMAN (BARR) THAT PROTESTANT PARAMILITARIES FAVERED REFERENDUM ON COALITION. PRESIDENT OF OFFICIAL SNN FEIN TOMAS MACGIOLLA ANNOUNCED HIS ORGANIZATION OPPOSED TO FURTHER DIRECT RULE, CALLED FOR MORE DEMOCRATIC LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND STATED OPPOSITION TO COALITION. REPORTING OFFICER HAS PURSUED SUBJECT OF REFERENDUM IN CONVERSATION WITH LOCAL LEADERS BOTH SIDES OF COMMUNITY. THOSE RESIDING BELFAST GENERALLY BELIEVE ELECTORATE WOULD FAVOR VOLUNTARY COALITION IN REFERENDUM. THOSE OUTSIDE BELFAST GENERALLY BELIEVE MAJORITY PROTESTANT ELECTORATE WOULD REJECT COALITION.

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